

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4637
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2007
INDO-CHINA AGREEMENT FOR COAL MINING
Singh Shri Rakesh

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any agreement has been signed between India and China for co-operation in the field of coal mining;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether India is self-reliant in matters pertaining to coal mining; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the fields where it lags behind?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a)&(b) During the bilateral discussions held in China in January 1994, it was decided to set up a Joint Working Group for providing formal framework to identify new areas of cooperation. This Working Group meets once in a year alternatively in China and India. According to a decision taken during the second meeting of the Working Group during December, 1994 a Task Force was set up in 1995 in order to monitor the progress of projects under bilateral cooperation in the coal sector between India and China. Eleven meetings of the Working Group and nine meetings of the Task Force have been held so far. The last meeting of the Working Group was held on 3rd April, 2007 in New Delhi. The last Task Force meeting of the Indo China Joint Working Group was held on 2nd April 2007 in New Delhi.

In September 1995, three bilateral agreements were signed between the South Eastern Coalfields Limited and the CME, China for installation and commissioning of three Longwall projects i.e., in Rajendra, New Kunda and Balrampur Areas of South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. These have already been implemented. Another project for induction of short longwall technology in Balrampur area was also taken up. The equipment has arrived at the mine site and is under installation. Apart from the above, discussions are held on sharing of information/ experience relating to issues such as hard roof management techniques, resin capsule manufacturing, technology for deep shaft sinking, coal mining safety etc.

(c)&(d) India is by and large self reliant pertaining to coal mining. However, new technologies and allied developments are constantly taking place. In order to benefit from such developments, regular exchange of technical knowhow and materials is undertaken regularly with the foreign countries.